

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**  
(Individual Inventor)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that this declaration is for an original application. I believe I am the sole original and first inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**"AUTOMATED PILL BOTTLE OPENER"**

The specification for the above entitled invention is filed herewith.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of the invention disclosed in this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a). I further acknowledge the duty in any continuation-in-part application to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to be material to the patentability of the invention disclosed in this application, as defined in §1.56, which became available to me between the filing date of the prior application and the filing date of this application.

PRIORITY CLAIM

There is no claim of priority for this application.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. Please direct all correspondence and telephone calls to:

Keith Kline, Registration Number 32,737  
14910 Bonner Court  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037-5925  
(408) 778-3440

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued hereon. I further acknowledge the duty in any continuation-in-part application to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to be material to the patentability of the invention disclosed in this application, as defined in §1.56, which became available to me between the filing date of the prior application and the filing date of this application.

Date: 7/9/2003

Verdell Thornton  
Verdell Thornton  
Post Office Address 5386 Alum Rock Avenue  
and Residence: San Jose, CA 95127  
Citizen of: United States of America

**DECLARATION OF SMALL ENTITY STATUS**  
(Independent Inventor)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR §1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled "**AUTOMATED PILL BOTTLE OPENER**" described in the application filed herewith.

ASSIGNMENT

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and am under no obligation to assign, grant, convey, or license to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR §1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR §1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR §1.9(e).

Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

(X)No such entity    ( )Individual    ( )Small Business    ( )Nonprofit Organization

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR §1.28(b))

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued hereon.

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